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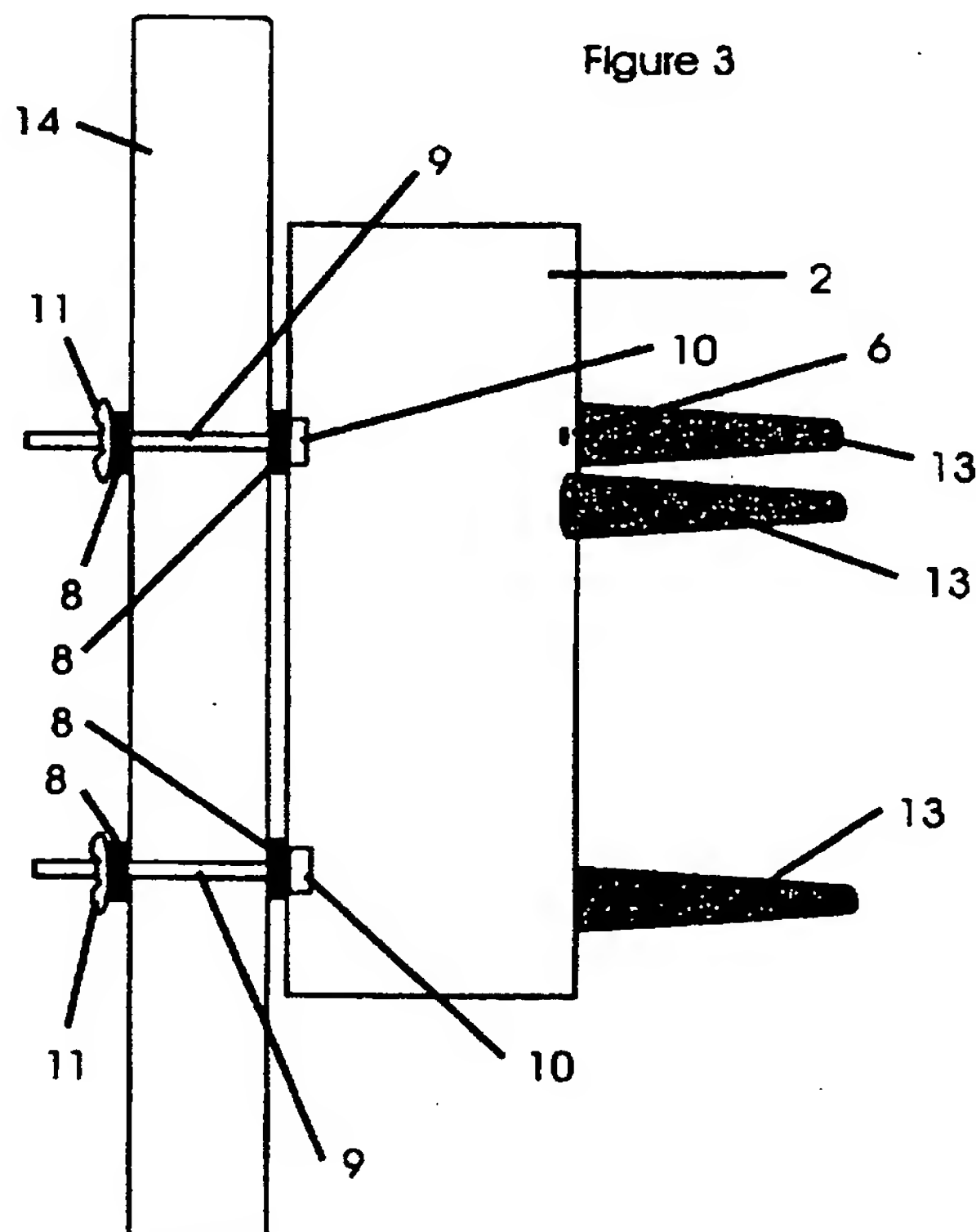
(52) UK CL (Edition O)
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GB 2249033 A

(58) Field of Search
UK CL (Edition O) A6M MBD
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On-Line Database: WPI

(54) Martial arts target

(57) A transportable martial arts target comprises a body portion (2) made of a strong plate bent into a half-cylinder, removable "arms" (13) and means (8 - 11) to attach the body to a post or tree. The target may also comprise removable "legs".



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Figure 1

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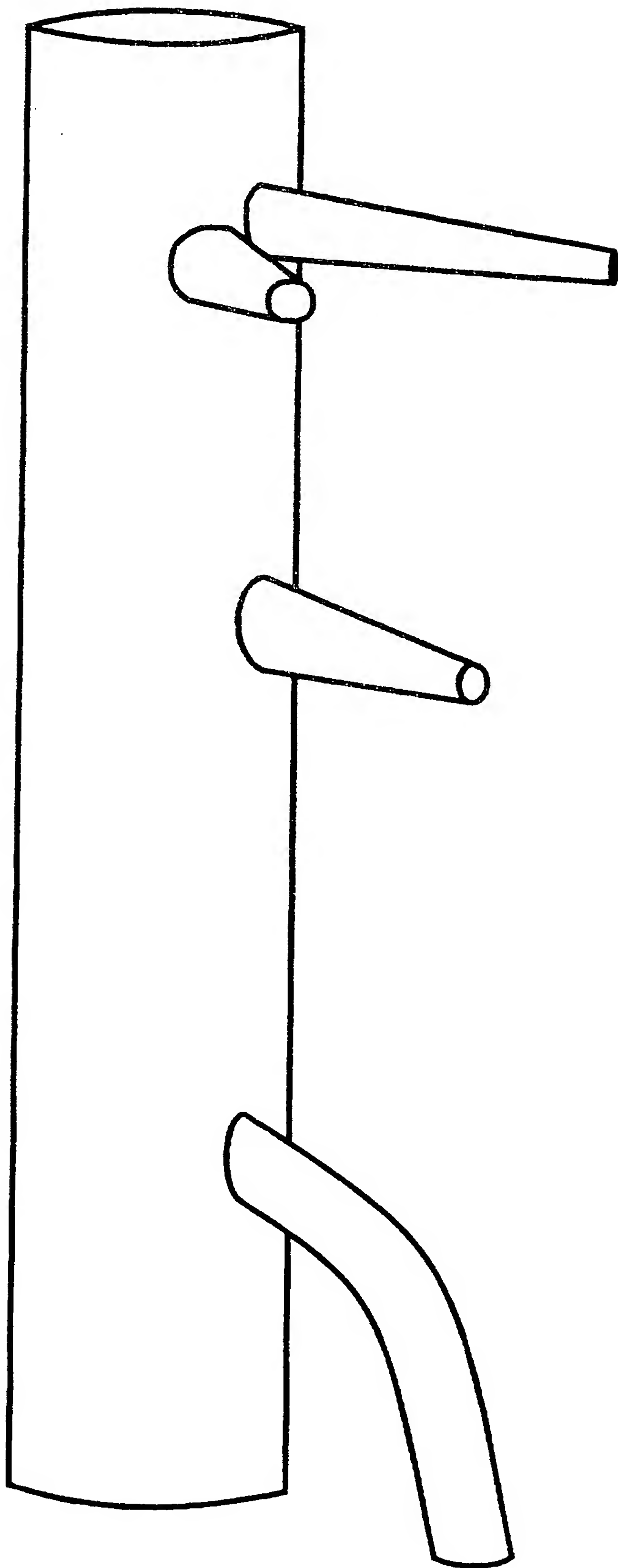


Figure 2

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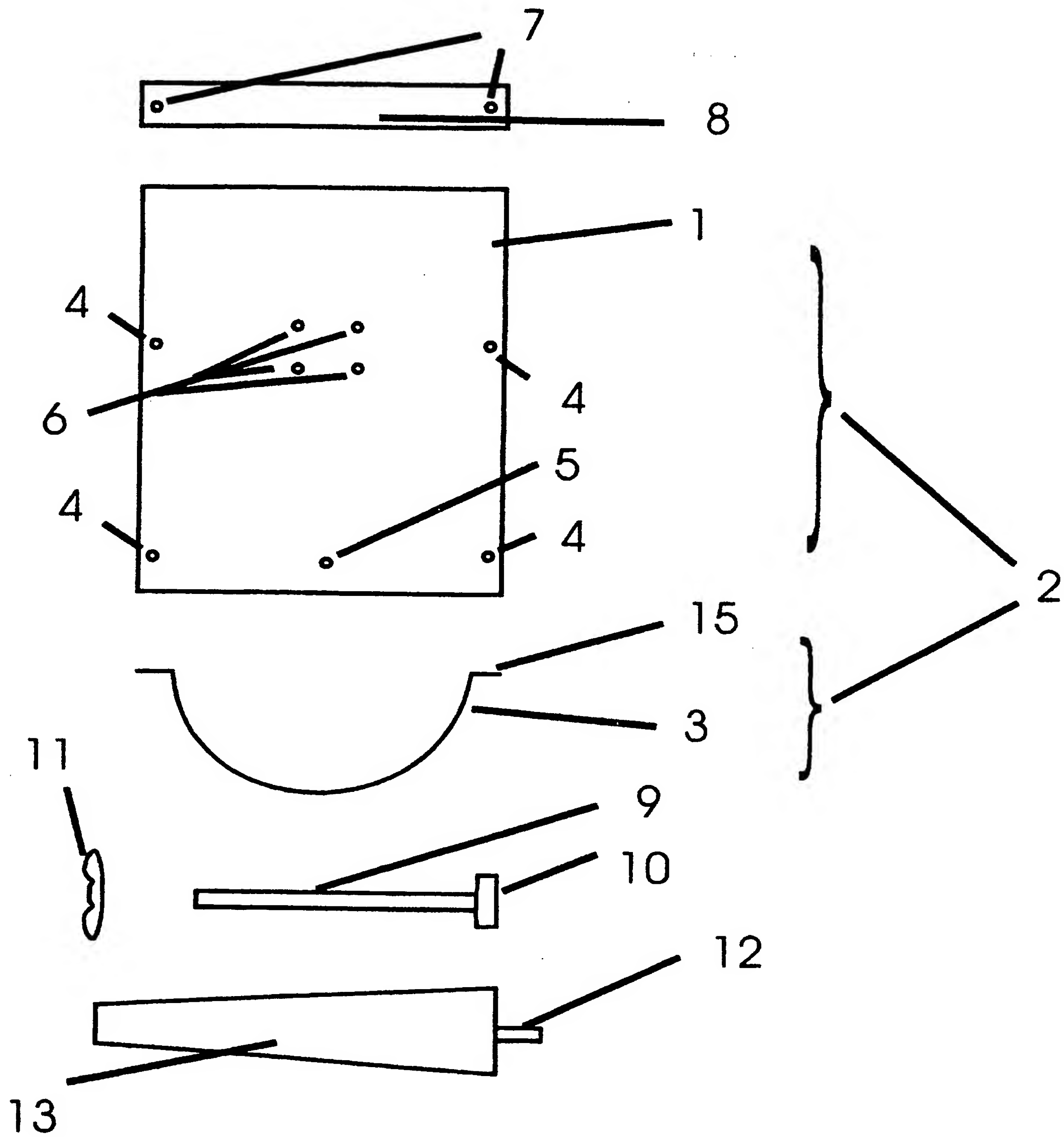
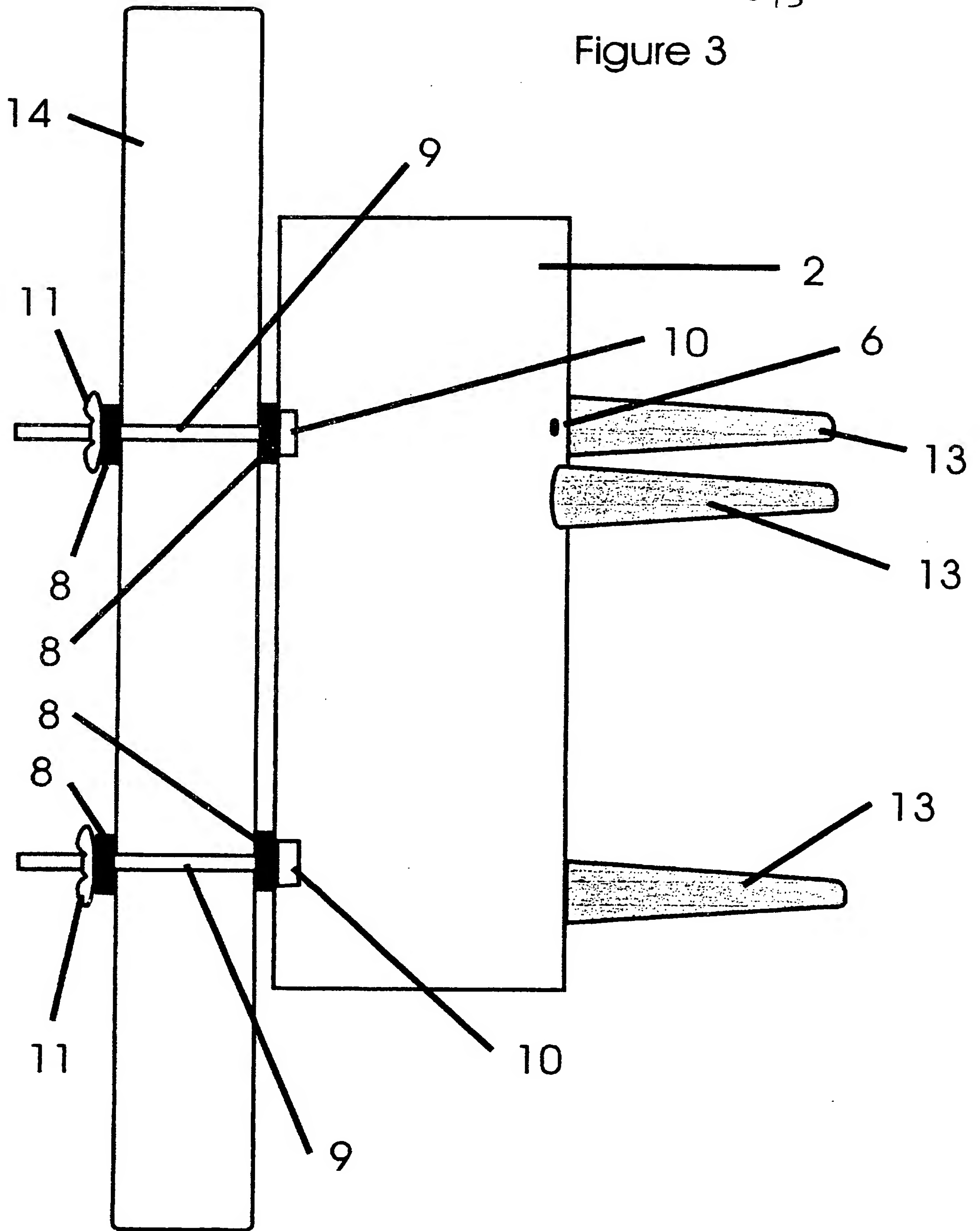


Figure 3



Patent Application for the design of
a portable 'Wooden Man'

This patent is for the design for a portable martial arts exercise apparatus known as the 'Wooden Man' (pronounced in Chinese as Muk Yan Jong or Mook Yan Chong).

The standard design of this apparatus is shown in figure 1. It consists of a wooden trunk with 2 wooden 'arms' protruding diagonally from the upper section, one from the mid section and one wooden 'leg' protruding from the lower section. It is a weighty and cumbersome item and needs to be fixed to a wall or secure frame of some kind as it has to take severely stressful forces.

The idea is for a much more portable version that can be carried around comfortably in a bag or case, is easily assembled / disassembled, and is versatile in that the two upper arms can be swapped to run diagonally in the opposite direction with ease. Effectively the finished product would consist of a metal (or a similarly strong and durable material) plate bent into a semi cylinder representing the upper part of the wooden man, into which could be screwed the two upper and one mid section arms. This semi cylinder could then be fastened to a tree of compatible size or a wooden post, by squeezing the post or tree between two pairs of strong flat bars or one pair of flat bars and the concave side of the semi cylinder via threaded rods / bolts and some kind of wing nut mechanism. The wooden leg could be made portable in a similar fashion but is in reality a quite tertiary part of the apparatus.

This would give the Chinese martial artist the ability to take his training apparatus with him whenever and wherever he wants - holidays, training sessions, seminars, etc..

The idea fulfills the qualification requirements for a patent in the following fashion:

1. It is new in the radical nature of its design, in material terms, portability and adaptability.
2. It contains an inventive step in that:
 - it is far more portable than existing versions allowing simple attachment to existing trees / posts.
 - it is changeable to train either side of the practitioner's body.
3. It is capable of industrial application in that it can easily be produced via an industrial process.

The specific embodiment of the invention will now be described by reference to the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 shows the existing original non portable design and has been referred to previously.

Figure 2 shows each of the components of the proposed portable version.

Figure 3 shows a side view of the assembled portable version attached to a post.

Referring to figures 2 and 3, the semi cylinder previously mentioned 2 is shown in front view 1 and in top view 3. As can be seen it is a semi cylinder with a flat strip 15 remaining on either

side of it. Each of the flat metal strips on either side of the semi cylinder has drilled through it two holes 4.

On the front view of the of the semi cylinder 1 is shown the drilled holes 6 and 5 into which the 'arms' 13 can be screwed via a threaded protrusion in the base of each arm 12. In order that the threaded part of the arms 12 can be threaded into the holes 5 and 6, extra depth can be given to the holes 5 and 6 by means of welding discs to the concave side of the semi cylinder 2 directly behind said holes and threading them. Alternatively normal nuts or loose threaded discs could be used in place of the welded discs. As can be seen the two upper arms can be fitted to any diagonal two of the upper four holes 6.

The semi cylinder is attached to a tree or post by taking four (or two) flat bars 8 with holes drilled in them 7 to align to the holes on either side of the semi cylinder 4, passing a threaded bolt 9 with a flat square head 10 through the holes at the side of the semi cylinder 4, optionally through one bar 8 and then through another bar 8. The post or tree 14 is then clamped between the pairs of metal bars 8, or if only two bars are used between them and the concave side of the semi cylinder 2. In order to secure the apparatus in place a wing nut type mechanism 11 (or e.g.. a threaded wheel) is used to fasten the apparatus tightly to the post or tree. It is necessary for the head of the bolt to be square so that it is prevented from turning by the adjacent convex part of the semi cylinder.

CLAIMS

1. A portable martial arts training apparatus (know as a 'wooden man'), consisting of a metal (or a similarly strong and durable material) plate bent into a semi cylinder representing the upper part of the wooden man, to which can be securely attached the two upper and one mid section arms. This semi cylinder could then be fastened to a tree of compatible size or a wooden post, by squeezing the post or tree between strong flat bars and the concave side of the semi cylinder via threaded rods / bolts and some kind of wing nut mechanism, or between pairs of strong flat bars behind the metal semi cylinder via the same mechanism.
2. A portable 'wooden man' as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the detachable arms can be screwed directly into the semi cylinder by means of threaded protrusions at their base and welded metal discs behind the five central holes in the semi cylinder which have been threaded to facilitate the attachment.
3. A portable 'wooden man' as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the detachable arms can be screwed onto the semi cylinder by means of threaded protrusions at their base and detached nuts / discs which have been threaded to facilitate the attachment of the arms to the semi cylinder.
4. A portable 'wooden man' as claimed in Claim 1 as an extension to which can be added its portable 'wooden leg', which can be fitted to the tree or post in a similar way to the main body as previously described. The 'leg' itself could be made of a variety of materials and possibly even made to be telescopic in design, or foldable, rather than of fixed shape.

Amendments to the claims have been filed as follows

1. A portable martial arts training apparatus (know as a 'wooden man'), consisting of a metal (or a similarly strong and durable material) plate bent into a semi cylinder representing the upper part of the wooden man, to which can be securely attached the two upper and one mid section arms. This semi cylinder could then be fastened to a tree of compatible size or a wooden post, by squeezing the post or tree between strong flat bars and the concave side of the semi cylinder via threaded rods / bolts and some kind of wing nut mechanism, or between pairs of strong flat bars behind the metal semi cylinder via the same mechanism.
2. A portable 'wooden man' as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the detachable arms can be screwed directly into the semi cylinder by means of threaded protrusions at their base and welded metal discs behind the five central holes in the semi cylinder which have been threaded to facilitate the attachment.
3. A portable 'wooden man' as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the detachable arms can be screwed onto the semi cylinder by means of threaded protrusions at their base and detached nuts / discs which have been threaded to facilitate the attachment of the arms to the semi cylinder.
4. A portable 'wooden man' as claimed in Claim 1 as an extension to which can be added its portable 'wooden leg', which can be fitted to the tree or post in a similar way to the main body as previously described. The 'leg' itself could be made of a variety of materials and possibly even made to be telescopic in design, or foldable, rather than of fixed shape.
5. A portable 'wooden man' as claimed in Claim 1 whereby the 'strong flat bars' referred to are bent / shaped to enable more secure fastening of the apparatus to the post / tree.



Application No: GB 9523954.7
Claims searched: 1 to 4

Examiner: Alan Blunt
Date of search: 6 June 1996

Patents Act 1977
Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.O): A6M (MBD)

Int Cl (Ed.6): A63B 69/00, 69/34

Other: On-Line Database: WPI

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
A	GB2249033A (ALBASRI) - Figures 3,4	1

X Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step
Y Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.
& Member of the same patent family

A Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
P Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
E Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.